

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----210831Z 124652 /11
O 201325Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5612

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0073

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE FROM EDMONDSON

SUGGEST DEPEATMENT REPEAT LONDON, LUSAKA, NAIROBI

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, RH, SF
SUBJ: RHODESIA: SMITH MAY SEE RICHARD TWICE

REF: CAPE TOWN 0071 (NODIS)

1. BRITISH AMBASSADOR SIR DAVID SCOTT PROVIDED ADDITIONAL
DETAILS ON EVENTS FOLLOWING IVOR RICHARD'S TALK WITH VORSTER.
AS REPORTED EARLIER, RHODESIAN REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD HAWKINS
WAS CALLED IN BY VORSTER IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE RICHARD-VORSTER
MEETING AND SUBSEQUENTLY CAME TO SEE SCOTT AND RICHARD AT THE
BRITISH EMBASSY. (ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF HAWKINS APPOINTMENT
WITH BRITISH WAS TO RECEIVE COPY OF ANTHONY CROSLAND'S REPLY
TO EARLIER LETTER FROM IAN SMITH, REPORTED IN CAPE TOWN 0045.)
ACCORDING TO SCOTT, HAWKINS "GOT QUITE AN EAR-BASHING" FROM
VORSTER WHO VERY FIRMLY URGED SMITH NOT TO TURN DOWN THE
BRITISH OFFER (OF DIRECT PARTICPATION IN INTERIM GOVERNMENT)
OUT OF HAND. HAWKINS ALSO TOLD SCOTT THAT THE HAD FORWARDED
THE BRITISH PAPER TO SMITH THROUGH RHODESIAN CABINET SECRETARY
JACK GAYLARD WITH A VERY STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT THEY
NOT SLAM THE DOOR. SCOTT, WHO SHOWED ME HIS REPORING CABLE,
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SAID THAT HAWKINS SUBSEQUENTLY HEARD FROM RHODESIAN
INTELLIGENCE CHIEF KEN FLOWER WHO "HAD THE IMPRESSION SMITH
WOULD NOT CLOSE THE DOOR TO NEGOTIATIONS" THOUGH HE WOULD
UNDOUBTEDLY BE VERY TOUGH WITH RICHARD. FLOWER ALSO REPORTED
TO HAWKINS THAT SMITH WAS CONSIDERING SEEING RICHARD BOTH
TOMORROW AND AGAIN ON MONDAY JANUARY 24, JUST BEFORE RICHARD
LEAVES RHODESIA.

2. SCOTT SAID HAWKINS READ TO HIM FROM HIS NOTES OF HIS MEETING WITH VORSTER, AND HE WAS IMPRESSED THAT HAWKINS USED SOME OF THE EXACT PHRASES THAT VORSTER HAD USED IN SUMMING UP AT THE MEETING WITH RICHARD, CONCLUDING THAT VORSTER HAD INDEED FOLLOWED THROUGH ON HIS PROMISE TO DO WHAT HE COULD TO KEEP THE NEGOTIATIONS ALIVE. SCOTT ADDED THAT VORSTER HAS ASKED MANY QUESTIONS IN THE TALK WITH RICHARD, NOT IN A HOSTILE FASHION, BUT AS IF HE WERE TRYING TO "GATHER AMMUNITION" FOR HIS NEXT TALK WITH SMITH, WHENEVER THAT MIGHT OCCUR. HE CONCLUDED THAT THE RECEIVED HEARING WHICH VORSTER GAVE RICHARD YESTERDAY AND THE MESSAGE WHICH VORSTER HAD PASSED TO HAWKINS CONFIRMED THAT VORSTER HAD TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY THE NEED TO KEEP NEGOTIATIONS OPEN AND WAS "PLAYING STRAIGHT" WITH THE BRITISH. NOTING THAT VORSTER HAD SEEMED VERY WELL PREPARED FOR THE MEETING, SCOTT REPEATED APPRECIATIVELY HIS SURMISE THAT THE MESSAGE VORSTER RECEIVED THROUGH AMBASSADOR BOTHA IN WHISHERING HAD BEEN VERY HELPFUL.

3. SCOTT SAID IVOR RICHARD RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM FCO MINISTER OF STATE TED ROWLANDS LATE LAST NIGHT SAYING THAT IF THE TALKS IN SALISBURY ENDED IN ANYTHING LIKE A PUBLIC REJECTION, ROWLAND WOULD NOT WANT RICHARD TO COME BACK TO LONDON RIGHT AWAY. RICHARD, WHO BELIEVES IN THINKING POSITIVELY, DOES NOT BELIEVE THIS IS A SERIOUS DANGER AND IN ANY EVENT FELT THAT HE WOULD NEED NEW INSTRUCTIONS IN ANY EVENT IF THAT HAPPENED. HE VERY MUCH WANTS TO RETURN TO LONDON FOR 3 OR 4 DAYS NEXT WEEK EVEN THOUGH LONDON DOES

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NOT SEEM TERRIBLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT IT.

4. IT NOW APPEARS RICHARD WILL STAY IN RHODESIA UNTIL MONDAY, PARTICULARLY IF THERE IS A CHANCE OF SMITH WANTING TO SEE HIM TWICE. A LOT OF ADDITIONAL PEOPLE OF IMPORTANCE HAVE ASKED TO SEE HIM, INCLUDING RHODESIA UNIVERSITY VICE CHANCELLOR HENRY MCDOWELL, QUITE APART FROM BUSY PROGRAM LAID ON BY MR. KELLY (NOT EDDY AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED) WHO IS SECRETARY OF A COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF PRESIDENTS OF SUCH PARASTATE GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS AS THE RHODESIAN NATIONAL FARMERS UNION, RHODESIA TOBACCO GROWERS ASSOCIATION, CAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, ETC. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, JOHN STRONG, WHO IS PRESIDENT OF THE FARMERS UNION, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW WITH SABC THIS MORNING THAT RICHARD WOULD SPEND DAY AND A HALF VISITING FARMS, MINES, INDUSTRIES, BANKS, AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN AN 80 MILE "CIRCUMFERENCE" (SIC) OF SALISBURY TO GIVE HIM A "MAXIMUM SENSE OF AWARENESS OF THE UNIQUENESS OF THE RHODESIAN SCENE," ESPECIALLY THE "UNIQUENESS OF THE ECONOMY." STRONG, WHO HIMSELF FOUND IT

DIFFICULT TO SEE A RECONVENING OF THE GENEVAL TALKS, SAID RICHARD WAS WELL-INFORMED, BUT WELCOMED AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE. TO QUESTIONS, HE SAID RICHARD WOULD BE TALKING TO SOME FAIRLY LARGE GROPS WHO WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT QUESTIONS TO HIM.

5. NEXT STEPS: SCOTT SAID RICHARD PLANS TO SEND HIS PLANE AND ONE OF HIS PARTY AS A COURIER TO LUSAKA ON SATURDAY, BOTH TO PASS ON COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT HIS MEETING WITH SMITH AND TO RECEIVE ANY INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION FROM LONDON. SHOULD WE WISH TO PASS ANY INFORMATION OR MESSAGES TO RICHARD, SCOTT SAID WE COULD PROVIDE THEM TO BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER MILES IN LUSAKA BY EARLY SATURDAY AM. SCOTT FELT IT WAS MOST LIKELY THAT RICHARD WOULD NOT LEAVE SALISBURY UNTIL MONDAY, JANUARY 24 AND THAT HE MIGHT GO STRAIGHT FROM A SECOND MEETING WITH SMITH TO NAIROBI TO SEPEND MONDAY NIGHT THERE BEFORE FLYING ON TO LONDON.
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6. HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT WHILE I WAS SEEING SCOTT, HAWKINS CAME TO SEE AMBASSADOR WHO IS REPORTING SEPTEL.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERIM GOVERNMENT, PAPERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CAT-B
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00073
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: OA
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840086-0974
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770134/aaaabdlp.tel
Line Count: 143
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 88f407d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 CAPE TOWN 71
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3551279
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: SMITH MAY SEE RICHARD TWICE
TAGS: PFOR, PREL, PDEV, RH, SF, UK, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES), (SCOTT, DAVID), (RICHARD, IVOR), (HAWKINS, HAROLD), (SMITH, IAN), (CROSLAND, ANTHONY)
To: STATE SS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/88f407d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009